

Fact Sheet: Finding Molly Johnson--A Search for Irish Famine Orphans in Canada, 1847-48

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1. When Media Makes History: “Molly Johnson’s Heritage Minute of Fame”
2. Addressing the Big Questions
 - a. What is meant by an orphan?
 - b. What is meant by adoption?
 - c. Was this a French Canadian Catholic action only?
 - d. How did the reception centres differ?
3. Sources:
 - a. National Library of Ireland, Manuscripts Room, Estate Papers
 - b. Strokestown Park Archives, Roscommon
 - c. Grosse Ile Ledgers of the Dead
 - d. *Canada Gazette*, 1848
 - e. *Census of Canada*, 1851-52; *Census of New Brunswick*, 1851
 - f. Church Registers
 - g. Dames Catholic de Quebec, Asylum Records
 - h. House of Industry Records & Widows and Orphans Homes
 - i. Archives of Roman Catholic Religious Orders (Greys Sisters, etc)
 - j. House of Industry Records
 - k. Saint John Asylum Records
 - l. Colonial Newspapers
4. The Famine Orphans: New Brunswick
5. The Famine Orphans: Montreal & Quebec & Rimouski
6. Catholic Children in Protestant Towns: Kingston & Toronto & [Bytown]
7. Conclusions & Further Reading:

Mark G McGowan, “Helpless Little Wanderers: Rethinking the Irish Famine Orphans in Quebec.” *RTE, Atlas of the Great Irish Famine*, Cork University Press, <https://www.rte.ie/history/post-famine/2020/0928/1168035-helpless-little-wanderers-the-famine-orphans-in-quebec/>

Mark G McGowan, “Old sources, new discoveries: in search of the 1,490 assisted immigrants from Strokestown to Canada, 1847,” *Archivium Hibernicum*, (2019): 373-95.

“Rethinking the Irish Famine Orphans of Quebec, 1847-1848” in Christine Kinealy, Jason King and Gerard Moran, eds., *Children and the Great Hunger in Ireland*. Hamden, CN: Quinnipiac University Press, The Great Hunger Institute, 2018. Pp. 95-122.